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Other matters

Report of the Ad Hoc Open-Ended Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Energy and Sustainable Development

(New York, 6-10 March 2000)

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I. Matters calling for action by the Commission on Sustainable Development or brought to its attention

Draft decision

1. The Ad Hoc Open-Ended Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Energy and Sustainable Development recommends to the Commission on Sustainable Development at its eighth session, the adoption of the following draft decision:

Agenda for the second session of the Ad Hoc Open-Ended Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Energy and Sustainable Development

The Commission on Sustainable Development endorses the agenda for the second session of the Ad Hoc Open-Ended Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Energy and Sustainable Development as adopted by the Group at its first session as follows:

Provisional agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
2. Consideration of the key issues of energy for sustainable development, with due consideration given for each issue to the means of implementation: capacity-building, technology transfer and financial resources:
   (a) Accessibility of energy;
   (b) Energy efficiency;
   (c) Renewable energy;
   (d) Advanced fossil fuel technologies;
   (e) Nuclear energy technologies;
   (f) Rural energy;
   (g) Energy-related issues in transportation.
3. Regional initiatives and endeavours.
4. Learning from each other: success stories in the promotion of energy for sustainable development.
5. Enhancing international cooperation for energy for sustainable development.
6. Adoption of the report.

II. Preparations for the ninth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, on energy issues

2. The Expert Group considered agenda item 3 at its 1st to 5th and 7th meetings, on 6 to 8 and 10 March 2000.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 6 March, the Director of the Division for Sustainable Development made an introductory statement.

4. At the same meeting, the Chairman of the World Energy Assessment Editorial Board made a presentation on the results of the World Energy Assessment.

A. Co-Chairpersons' summary of the discussion

1. Introduction

5. At its nineteenth special session, the General Assembly adopted the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 (General Assembly resolution S-19/2, annex), which included the multi-year programme of work for the Commission on Sustainable Development for the period 1998-2001, under which the sectoral theme of the ninth session of the Commission will be atmosphere/energy and the economic sector to be discussed will be energy/transport. Pertinent decisions of the General Assembly are contained in the section entitled "Energy" of the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, as well as in the relevant sections on transport and atmosphere (paras. 42-56).

6. At its nineteenth special session, the General Assembly, recognizing the complexities and interdependencies inherent in addressing energy issues within the context of sustainable development, also decided that the preparations for the ninth session of the Commission should be initiated at the Commission's seventh session and should utilize an open-ended intergovernmental group of experts on

energy and sustainable development to be held in conjunction with inter-sessional meetings of the eighth (2000) and ninth (2001) sessions of the Commission. The General Assembly emphasized that, in line with the objectives of Agenda 21, the ninth session of the Commission should contribute to a sustainable energy future for all.

7. The Ad Hoc Open-Ended Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Energy and Sustainable Development met for its first session from 6 to 10 March 2000, at New York. At this session, the Group of Experts deliberated on the preparations for the ninth session of the Commission, on energy issues, which involved identifying key issues of energy and sustainable development, discussion of the programme of work between the first and second sessions of the Group of Experts and the formulation of a provisional agenda for its second session.

8. The participants at the meeting benefited from a combined panel on global energy trends and sustainable development, financing, investment and sustainable energy, involving representatives from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), the International Energy Agency (IEA), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF).

9. Preparations for the ninth session of the Commission should build on Agenda 21, taking into account the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21. The preparatory process could also take into account the existing international documents which address energy issues, such as the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly and the World Solar Programme, and energy-related provisions of the outcomes of other relevant global conferences, summits and conventions.

10. At the same time it was recognized that the work of the Group of Experts could benefit from exchange of information with other ongoing intergovernmental processes relevant to energy and sustainable development. The need for active exchange of information between the Group of Experts and such processes in the lead up to the ninth session of the Commission was fully recognized.

11. In reviewing the theme of energy and sustainable development, taking into account the special circumstances of developing countries and bearing in mind Agenda 21 and the outcome of the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly, consideration was given to the implementation of their provisions relating to financial resources, transfer of technology, capacity-building and foreign investment flows to developing countries, and to the importance of national policies.

12. The Group of Experts emphasized the expert nature of its work and the overall objective of its mandate. It was also noted that this preparatory process would provide information for decision makers for their consideration in policy development on energy. The importance of a multi-stakeholder approach in the deliberations of the Group of Experts has also been underlined.

2. Key issues for consideration at the ninth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development

13. During the deliberations at the first session of the Group of Experts, based on the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Energy and sustainable development: key issues" (E/CN.17/ESD/2000/3), as well as the introduction of the draft world energy assessment report and panel presentations, the key issues described below were identified as of particular importance to the participants. Consideration of these issues would require technical work during this preparatory process leading to the ninth session of the Commission, which should promote a common understanding of the challenges and constraints inherent in the concept of energy for sustainable development. Progress in the achievement of energy in support of sustainable development will depend on the socio-economic conditions, the stage of development in different countries and the political will to effect change. These key issues represent areas where the international community can promote movement towards energy systems in support of sustainable development.

14. A major challenge for the international community is to ensure that energy systems will contribute to the goals of sustainable development.

Accessibility of energy

15. Access to energy is crucial to the achievement of economic and social development and the alleviation of

poverty, as well as to addressing environmental concerns. There is a need for energy services to be delivered reliably, affordably, economically and in an environmentally sound and socially acceptable manner, particularly in developing countries, including their rural areas, in order to meet their energy requirements. Diversification of energy sources with enhanced use of locally available energy resources is important.

16. Accessibility of energy depends on security of supply and security of demand of energy, which contribute to market stability. This can be enhanced through, for example, the ongoing international dialogue between producers and consumers of energy, information exchange and enhanced transparency, as well as analysis and projections of future demand and supply of energy. Despite the introduction of new forms of energy, fuelwood continues to play an important role in satisfying energy needs in many rural areas. Access to sustainable fuelwood supplies is a growing problem in many developing countries, and it needs to be addressed in a comprehensive manner.

17. Electricity is increasingly assuming greater importance in the total energy mix, particularly in developing countries, with increasing recognition of adequate and reliable electric power as important to economic and social development. Therefore, low-cost financing schemes may be needed. The electric power sector of developing countries faces a formidable array of new challenges. There are very strong social imperatives and political pressures to expand supply since large segments of the population are still without adequate access to energy, including commercial energy, such as electricity. Electrification is capital-intensive and still perceived as being a major challenge for developing countries; it could benefit from the liberalization of electric power markets. The electrification of rural areas, the maintenance and modernization of existing grids, and the establishment of decentralized and stand-alone energy systems and enhanced efficiency in distribution will need international support. Environmentally sound and economically advantageous solar, wind, biomass and ocean-based technologies should similarly be promoted.

18. Investments in cross-border electricity and oil and gas infrastructure can often be facilitated by cooperation on framework conditions among concerned countries, including transit countries.

19. The transportation of energy products through natural gas and oil pipelines and shipment by tankers should take fully into account environmental and economic cost-effectiveness concerns. The consideration of diversification of energy transportation routes provides an opportunity for international cooperation.

Energy efficiency

20. There is a need to increase the efficiency of current conventional energy production, conversion, transportation, distribution and use. Large gains in efficiency can still be achieved in all types of energy technology and in all economic sectors; major gains can still be achieved in industrialized countries. Further consideration should be given to energy policies that lead to accelerated development and the adaptation of more energy-efficient technologies, which can reduce the growth of energy use. Investment in energy and material efficiency would result in significant energy savings and could release additional investment resources for financing energy systems in support of sustainable development. The identification and removal of obstacles to technology transfer is vital and instrumental in enabling developing countries achieve higher energy efficiency. It is also important to establish national institutional and legal frameworks to promote the efficient use of energy.

21. The need for close attention to long-term development planning was noted since energy balance is largely determined by long-lived infrastructure of the major energy-consuming sectors, such as transportation, urban layouts, building and industrial plans.

22. Energy conservation by both energy producers and consumers and loss reduction in various energy-use sectors are equally important. Opportunities for energy efficiency are generally cost-effective and should be actively pursued.

23. Energy efficiency improvements in industrialized countries may not be automatically applicable in developing countries because of the existing infrastructure and level of technology development. International cooperation could focus on technology adaptation to suit local conditions. Public awareness campaigns could contribute to greater understanding of the advantages of energy and material efficiency and

lead to wider acceptance of energy efficiency standards.

Renewable energy

24. An increasing role for renewable energy, with due consideration to cost-effectiveness, is considered important to achieve the objectives of an energy future in support of sustainable development. In developing countries, the realization of this role will have to be associated with transfer of technology, technology availability and capacity-building. The share of renewable energy sources in the global energy mix should be increased. Many renewable energy technologies have enormous potential. Considerable research and development has already been undertaken; however, realizing the potential of these technologies will require further research and development activities along with market expansion in order to reduce their costs. Many successful cases exist, especially in remote areas, where renewable sources of energy are used under normal market conditions. Further efforts at the local, national, regional and international levels need to be undertaken to obtain quantitative and qualitative information on the availability of renewable sources of energy by improving the availability of data.

25. Although investment initiatives in renewable energy technologies and their efficient use might require the promotion of attractive fiscal incentives and national legal frameworks, concern was expressed on this matter. In many cases, such investments will require bilateral and multilateral assistance due to perceived higher economic risk by the private sector.

26. Greater understanding and analysis of market conditions, including regional markets, is needed for wider application of these technologies to enhance their contribution to sustainable development. A key element in promoting the acceptance and use of renewable energy sources and technologies lies in heightened public awareness. Constraints in renewable energy application in developing countries include their high capital cost, limited research and development and technology capabilities and resources, lack of institutional capacity, and lack of financial and human resources.

Advanced fossil fuel technologies

27. Since most global energy needs today are provided by fossil fuels and it is expected that these fuels will continue to play a major role in the foreseeable future, there is a need for the promotion, research, development and use of advanced and cleaner fossil fuel technologies. The international community should cooperate in the dissemination and transfer of such advanced technologies, their operation and the financing of their use.

Nuclear energy technologies

28. nuclear energy will continue to contribute to the overall energy mix. It is necessary, however, that acceptable responses be found to such concerns as reactor safety, radioactive waste management, proliferation of fissile material and life cycle cost.

Rural energy

29. Issues confronting rural energy are wide-ranging. The provision of affordable energy services to areas beyond economic reach of energy supply grids, which are designed to truly meet local needs, such as water supplies, presents a major challenge. Policies aimed at providing modern energy services to rural areas should also take into careful consideration the generation of concomitant income-generating activities. This also requires the delivery of energy services for productive activities as well as maintenance of rural energy systems. Rural energy systems should be simple and decentralized in terms of their design, construction, operation and maintenance, and make the best use of indigenous resources with widest local community participation in order to ensure the sense of ownership needed to maintain these energy systems.

30. Financing mechanisms for rural energy services should be designed to maximize local ownership, by extending credit at low cost — to the local community and by introducing other innovative financial mechanisms. This will require domestic resources and both national and international cooperative efforts to mobilize additional resources for this purpose.

31. Energy supplies and technologies utilized for cooking require special attention. There are social and economic benefits to be gained by enabling women in rural areas to become the beneficiaries of environmentally sound energy technologies, know-how and extension services. Particular benefits could result from outreach programmes in the areas of education, training and microcredit facilities, in particular targeted to women, and related to community development

programmes on household use of fuelwood, modern fuels and energy efficient cooking technology.

Energy and transportation

32. Transportation is the fastest growing energy-consuming sector. The global consumption of transportation fuels together with concerns about the environmental and health impacts of combustion emissions have stimulated research and development into cleaner fuels and new transportation technologies. Potential also exists in using alternative fuels and additives, such as compressed natural gas, liquefied petroleum gas, methanol, ethanol and bio-diesel.

33. There are a number of possible policies to encourage faster uptake of alternative fuels and reducing the negative environmental impacts of transportation, such as measures to encourage change of transportation modes, measures to raise energy efficiency within each transportation mode, measures to develop and promote public transportation, measures to promote alternative fuels, and measures for emission control and effective enforcement procedures. Initiatives should build on existing industrial and manufacturing agreements, which establish guidelines for improved product efficiency.

Technology transfer

34. There is a need to intensify international cooperation in transfer of energy technologies through North-South and South-South cooperation in order to achieve energy for sustainable development solutions. There is a need to remove constraints and barriers to the effective transfer of such technologies. Consideration should be given to international cooperation that encourages local development, adaptation, operation and maintenance of environmentally sound technologies, as well as support for capacity-building in order to locally produce the necessary equipment needed to ensure sustainable energy supply in developing countries.

35. Efforts to enhance scientific and technology cooperation through the research, development, transfer and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies should recognize the important but differentiated contributions of the public and private sectors. There is also a need for further efforts in the commercialization and marketing of new and cleaner technologies. The governmental role in developing and fostering enabling policy, legal and institutional frameworks should be emphasized.

36. The participation of local communities, the private sector and other stakeholders as well as public-private partnerships in cleaner and advanced energy technology development could facilitate efficient transfer, adaptation and use of technologies and know-how.

Capacity-building

37. Capacity-building efforts need special attention in international cooperation activities. Capacity-building is an essential component of strategies aimed at achieving the objectives of energy for sustainable development. This includes the building of institutional, managerial and technical capacities. There is a need to strengthen national capacity, including through enhancement of existing networks at the subregional, regional and international levels, with international support and cooperation, including the facilitation of joint research programmes.

38. The educational and awareness levels of end-users should be raised in order to promote the acceptability of many environmentally sound energy technologies.

39. The need to support increased participation of civil society in national and international policy and project development through the rule of law and democratic, participatory and transparent decision-making was expressed.

Mobilization of financial resources

40. Substantial new and additional financial resources would continue to be required to support developing countries' efforts to move towards energy that contributes to sustainable development. Bilateral and multilateral official development assistance (ODA) is an important source of external funding for energy for sustainable development in developing countries, and United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) commitments were recalled. There is also a need to mobilize financial resources and to enhance the effectiveness of existing financial resources. In order to achieve this, consideration needs to be given to the design of appropriate arrangements for reducing investment risk and attracting capital. In addition, attention is needed to develop innovative mechanisms to increase the magnitude of investments

in the application of energy technologies for sustainable development, especially energy efficiency, cleaner fuels and renewable energy technologies. The importance of mobilization and better use of domestic financial resources for energy for sustainable development was stressed.

41. Multilateral financial institutions and programmes should strengthen their financial assistance, particularly grants and concessional mechanisms, in order to contribute to growth in the development and application of energy technologies for sustainable development in close consultation with recipient countries. In addition, they can play an important complementary and catalytic role in encouraging private investment and, where appropriate, all aspects of country-driven capacity-building and strengthening.

42. Establishing an enabling environment to attract private investment and public-private partnerships will require macroeconomic stability, trade liberalization and transparent and sound investment policies, as well as well-functioning regulatory frameworks and legal and financial systems. Privatization and liberalization, including the gradual removal of harmful subsidies, is essential to stimulate increased private investment and competition in the energy sector to bring about more efficiency in the sector, reduce the investment burden of the public sector and ensure the best possible safe services for consumers. However, implementation of the reforms should take into careful consideration adverse social, economic and environmental implications, and may thus require gradual introduction.

43. The importance of structural reforms in the energy sector, including market reforms, and market-based pricing, including through eliminating inefficient monopolies, which are necessary to make energy-producing and energy-consuming activities supportive of sustainable development, was raised. However, concern was expressed on this matter.

44. The importance of the internalization of externalities to achieve accurate price signals was highlighted. However, concerns were raised on the matter.

45. There is also a need to encourage the reduction and gradual elimination of subsidies in energy production and consumption that inhibit sustainable development. Such policies should take fully into account the specific needs and conditions of developing countries, particularly the least developed countries and economies in transition, taking into account the fact that the social objectives of most existing energy subsidies can often be met more efficiently by means of well-targeted social programmes.

46. The external debt problem can continue to hamper the efforts of developing countries to achieve sustainable development, and could be a barrier to private national and international investments.

47. When investing in the development of new energy sources, environmental protection in general and protection of endangered species and biodiversity in particular should be taken into full consideration.

International and regional cooperation

48. International and regional cooperation play an important role in addressing the challenges of energy for sustainable development. The potential of the regional commissions and other regional organizations, including regional development banks, has to be fully utilized in that regard. Further consideration could be given to regional energy cooperation agreements to meet energy requirements. The development of regional cooperation agreements and projects, with the assistance of donor countries and multilateral institutions, could be particularly effective in enhancing energy access. Energy policy and planning are important for effective international cooperative activities in the development of energy systems that contribute to sustainable development. Governments have a primary role to play in energy policy and planning.

49. There is a need for donors, international financial institutions and the United Nations system to pay particular attention to issues relating to the least developed countries and the poorest communities. International cooperation should focus in particular on the support for delivery of energy in support of sustainable development as a means for providing services to reduce poverty and promote the development process.

50. There is a need to intensify international cooperation, both North-South and South-South cooperation, in order to create environmentally sound, cost-effective and affordable energy systems. It is also essential to ensure international cooperation for

promoting energy conservation, the improvement of energy efficiency, the use of renewable energy and research and development and the dissemination of innovative energy technologies. As noted above, international cooperation is also needed in the areas of capacity-building, financing and providing access to information on environmentally sound energy technologies.

B. Programme of work between the first and second sessions of the Group of Experts

51. The Group of Experts welcomed the efforts of Governments and organizations to organize activities in relation to its work, in particular proposed activities at the regional level, and took note of various ongoing and planned activities, which are listed below. The results of such activities could provide valuable inputs to the work of the Group of Experts. However, any decisions on policy recommendations to be presented to the ninth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development would rest with the Group of Experts itself.

52. The Group of Experts recommended to all countries and organizations planning or proposing meetings or expert consultations relevant to its work to ensure open-ended, transparent, participatory and representative nature of such initiatives, and balanced and active involvement of developed and developing countries from all regions and groups and relevant stakeholders, reflecting a range of interests and views. The organizers, in the course of their preparations, could consult with the Co-Chairmen and the secretariat of the Group of Experts, as appropriate.

Ongoing and planned initiatives which will contribute to the work of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts

53. The following is a list of activities/events related to the work of the Group of Experts:

Global 2000 Conference and Trade Show: Global Opportunities for Business and the Environment, Vancouver, 22-24 March 2000

Gas Technology Symposium 2000, Calgary, 3-5 April 2000 (contact http://www.ceri.ca)

World Bank Group Energy Week: Energy and Poverty, Washington, D.C., 10-14 April 2000 (contact: www.worldbank.org)

2000 Ethanol Vehicle Challenge: Ottawa to Windsor, Ottawa and Windsor, Canada, 13-20 May 2000 (contact: http://www.transportation.anl.gov)

Fourth European Conference on Mobility Management, Austria, 18 and 19 May 2000, organized by the Government of Austria

World Forum on Energy Regulation, Montreal, 21-24 May 2000 (contact: http://www.erngyforum.org)

Hydrogen Millennium: Tenth Canadian Hydrogen Conference, Quebec City, 28-31 May 2000 (contact: http://www.uqtr.uquebec.ca/IRH)

Seminar on energy pricing and subsidies, Prague, June 2000, organized by ECE

Canadian International Petroleum Conference: Technology 2000, Your Competitive Advantage, Calgary, 4-8 June 2000 (contact: http://www.petsoc.org/cipcprogram.html)

World Petroleum Congress, Calgary, 11-15 June 2000 (contact: http://www.wpc2000.com)

"Electricity: the new millennium", Montreal, 18-21 June 2000, meeting hosted by Hydro Quebec and the Canadian Electricity Association (contact: http://www.eei.org/2000)

International Fuel Ethanol Workshop and Trade Show, Windsor, Canada, 20-23 June 2000 (contact: http://www.bbiethanol.com/ internationalcontent.htm)

International Expert Meeting on Environmental Practices in Offshore Oil and Gas Activities, Stavanger, Norway, 29-30 June 2000

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development, second session, New York, 14-25 August 2000

Ministerial Conference on Environment and Development in Asia and the Pacific, Kitakyushu City, Japan, 31 August-5 September 2000, organized by ESCAP (contact: http://www.unescap.org)

Business and Investment Forum for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency in Asia and the Pacific, Kuala Lumpur, 4-7 September 2000, organized by the Malaysian Government with the support of the World Solar Commission secretariat

Canada's Energy Efficiency Conference and Awards 2000: Infinite Possibilities Powered by Innovation, Ottawa, 10-12 October 2000 (contact: http://oee.nrcan.ca/conference)

Second International Conference and Exhibition on World Solar Cooking and Food Processing, South Africa, autumn 2000, organized by a local organization and the World Solar Academy and supported by the World Solar Commission secretariat

Business and Investment Forum for Renewable Energy in the Arab States, Muscat, autumn 2000, organized by the Agence de l'environnement et de la maîtrise de l'énergie (France), the Commission of the European Communities, the Catalan Energy Institute (Spain), and UNESCO, with the support of the World Solar Commission secretariat

Intergovernmental task force on the ECE contribution to the ninth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, *inter alia*, through identifying regional priorities and organizing a high-level multi-stakeholder forum on the theme "Sustainable energy in a competitive market: forging partnerships", November 2000

Seventh International Energy Forum (a dialogue between consumers and producers of petroleum), Riyadh, 17-19 November 2000

Renewable Energy Exhibition: ELEC 2000, Paris, 11-15 December 2000, organized by ELEC 2000, the World Solar Commission secretariat and the World Solar Business and Investment Council

Village Power 2000, co-sponsored by the World Bank Group and National Renewable Energy Laboratories, December 2000

Workshop on Energy Efficiency in the Oil and Gas Sector (for experts from the region and outside the region), to be organized by the Islamic Republic of Iran

Ten regional workshops on energy efficiency and climate change, to be organized by ECE

Workshop on the design and implementation of energy policies in the context of globalization, market restructuring and the environment for francophone countries of South-East Asia and Latin America, sponsored by France

Dialogues at the parliamentary level in the Latin American and the Caribbean on regulations in the energy sector for sustainable development, organized by ECLAC in cooperation with the European Union

Launching a global forum on sustainable energy in Austria in late 2000 (to build partnerships and consider action required for supporting sustainable development and modernization of rural energy (contact: http://www.sustainable-energy.org)

Launching of the Sustainable Energy Advisory Facility by UNEP, with the support of the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (the Facility will assist developing countries in a range of activities related to sustainable energy)

World Energy Assessment, to be published by UNDP, the United Nations Secretariat and the World Energy Council in September 2000

Asia-Pacific regional position paper on energy and sustainable development, to be prepared by ESCAP in consultation with its members and associate members

FAO working document on linkages between agriculture and energy

Draft special report on technology transfer of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

Project on energy and sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean (comprising policy analysis, preparation of a policy guidebook and seminars at the subregional levels), managed by ECLAC, the Latin American Energy Organization and the German Agency for Technical Cooperation

Further work to be undertaken in preparation for the second session of the Group of Experts

54. The following work is to be undertaken in preparation for the second session of the Group of Experts:

(a) Solicitation of views of Governments on the key issues identified in the present report;

(b) Preparation of case studies on specific issues discussed during the first session of the Group of Experts.

III. Provisional agenda for the second session

55. At its 7th meeting, on 10 March, the Group of Experts adopted the agenda for the second session and decided to recommend it to the Commission on Sustainable Development at its eighth session (see sect. I, draft decision).

IV. Adoption of the report

56. At its 7th meeting, on 10 March, the Group of Experts adopted the report as orally corrected and took note of the Co-Chairman's summary of the discussions (see sect. II.A).

V. Organizational matters

A. Opening and duration of the session

57. The Ad Hoc Open-Ended Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Energy and Sustainable Development of the Commission on Sustainable Development met in New York from 6 to 10 March 2000, in accordance with Economic and Social Council decision 1999/280 of 29 July 1999. The Group held 7 meetings (1st-7th meetings).

58. The session was opened by the Vice-Chairman of the Commission on Sustainable Development, Choi Seok-Young (Republic of Korea).

59. The Director of the Division for Sustainable Development made an introductory statement. The Chairman of the World Energy Assessment Editorial Board made a presentation.

B. Election of officers

60. At its 1st meeting, on 6 March, the Group of Experts elected Mohammad Reza Salamat (Islamic Republic of Iran) as Co-Chairman by acclamation. The Group of Experts also elected Irene Freudenschuss-Reichl (Austria) as Co-Chairman by secret ballot.

61. At the same meeting, the Group of Experts elected Marcio Numes (Brazil) and Jaroslav Marousek (Czech Republic), as Vice-Chairmen by acclamation. One Vice-Chairman remains to be elected.

C. Agenda and organization of work

62. At its 1st meeting, on 6 March, the Group of Experts adopted its provisional agenda (E/CN.17/ESD/2000/1) and approved its organization of work. The agenda was as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Preparations for the ninth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development, on energy issues.
4. Provisional agenda for the second session of the Group of Experts.
5. Adoption of the report of the Group of Experts on its first session.

D. Attendance

63. The session was attended by representatives of 33 States members of the Commission on Sustainable Development. Observers for other States Members of the United Nations and for the European Community, representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and secretariats of treaty bodies, as well as observers for intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, also attended.

E. Documentation

64. The Group of Experts had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on national submissions (E/CN.17/ESD/2000/2);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General entitled "Energy and sustainable development: key issues" (E/CN.17/ESD/2000/3);

(c) Letter dated 15 February 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting a European Union position paper on the first session of the Group of Experts (E/CN.17/ESD/2000/4);

(d) Report of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources for Development on its first session (E/1999/32-E/CN.14/1999/2).

Annex

Attendance

Algeria:	Abdallah Baali, Abderrahmane Merouane
Angola:	
Belgium:	Andre Adam, Dirk Wouters, Nancy Mahieu, Jean-Paul Charlier
Brazil:	Marcio Nuñes, Barbara Briglia Tavora, Marcelo Dantas
Bulgaria:	Zvetolyuv Basmajiev
Cameroon:	Lokolo Michel Claude
Canada:	Yvan Jobin, Craig Wilson, Gerry Collins, Janet Stephenson, Peter Stokoe, Corey Peabody
China:	Shi Weiqiang
Colombia:	Alfonso Valdivieso, Mauricio Baquero, Andrea Alban
Côte d'Ivoire:	
Cuba:	Bruno Rodriguez Parrilla, Rafael Dausa Cespedes, Omar Rivero Rosario, Alfredo Curbelo Alonso, Ileana Nuñez Mordoche
Czech Republic:	Jan Kara, Jaroslav Maroušek
Democratic People's Republic of Korea:	
Democratic Republic of the Congo:	
Denmark:	Karsten Petersen, Thure Christiansen, Erik Tang, Thoms Becker
Djibouti:	
Egypt:	Ahmed Aboul Gheit, Ahmed Darwish, Hazem Fahmy, Ihab Gamaleldin, Hani Abdel Razek El Naquib
France:	Raymond Quereilhac, Pascal Dupuis, Daniel Le Gargasson, Bernard Devin, Daniel Brun
Germany:	Martin Lutz, Wolfhart Duerrschmidt, Reinhard Krapp, Klaus Loewe, Klaus Glasmacher, Ole Langniss, Bernhard Boesel
Guyana:	Samuel R. Insanally, Alison Drayton, George Wilfred Talbot

Hungary:	
India:	
Indonesia:	Makmur Widodo, Yoga Pratomo, Djauhari Oratmangun, Nenny Sri Utami, Ngurah Swajaya, Vitto Rafael Tahar
Iran (Islamic Republic of):	Bagher Asadi, Mohammad Reza Salamat, Mehdi Mirafzal, Mohsen Esperi, Ahmad Kadkhodazadeh
Ireland:	Martin Diskin, Dympna Hayes
Italy:	Giovanni Brauzzi, Giovannino Di Palma, Walter Galinetta, Fabio Cassese, Roberto Binatti
Japan:	Koichiro Seki
Kazakhstan:	
Lebanon:	Houssam Diab
Mauritania:	
Mauritius:	
Mexico:	
Mozambique:	
Netherlands:	Herman Verheij, Marja Cochius, Antje van Driel
New Zealand:	Michael Powles, Trevor Hughes, Grant Robertson
Nicaragua:	
Niger:	
Panama:	Fernando Diaz, Angelica Jacome
Paraguay:	
Peru:	
Philippines:	Libran N. Cabactulan, Miguel Bautista, Glenn F. Corpin
Portugal:	Antonio Monteiro, Nuno Brito, Antonio Botão, João Pedro Fins-do-Lago, Carlos Ferreira, Mario Garcia
Republic of Korea:	Oh Youngju, Kim Chang Seob
Russian Federation:	Nikolai V. Tchoulkov, Garigen S. Aslanian, A. A. Pankin, Dmitry I. Maksimychev, Sergey F. Bulgachenko, Sergey O. Fedorov
Slovakia:	Josef Stahl, Igor Vencel
Spain:	
Sri Lanka:	

Sudan:	
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia:	Naste Calovski, Donka Gligorova, Goran Stevcevski, Nikola Cerepnalkovski
Tunisia:	Nejib Osman, Skander Ben Abdallah
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland:	Mark Runacres, Ian Symons, Scott Ghagan, Stephen Lowe, Richard Jones, Michael Massey
United States of America:	Mark G. Hambley, Jonathan Margolis, Ko Barrett, Jennifer Bergeron, William Breed, Lawrence Cohen, Michael Gallagher, Duncan Marsh, David Moses, Lynette J. Poulton, Kenneth Thomas, Gordon Weyland
Venezuela:	

States Members of the United Nations represented by observers

Australia, Austria, Antigua and Barbuda, Belarus, Cyprus, Finland, Gambia, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, Iraq, Israel, Malta, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Qatar, Romania, Samoa, Slovenia, South Africa, Suriname, Sweden, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Zimbabwe

Entities represented by observers

European Community

Non-Member States maintaining permanent observer missions at Headquarters

Holy See, Switzerland

Specialized agencies and related organizations

International Labour Office, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, United Nations Industrial Development Organization, World Meteorological Organization, International Atomic Energy Agency

Intergovernmental organizations

International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources

United Nations and related agencies

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Environment Programme, Global Environment Facility

Non-governmental organizations

Information Habitat and Energy and Climate Change Caucus

International Chamber of Commerce

World Sustainable Energy Coalition